

Public Report
Overview and Scrutiny Management Board

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting

Overview and Scrutiny Management Board – 11 October 2023

Report Title

The Safer Rotherham Partnership (SRP) Annual Report 2022-23

Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?

No

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report

Paul Woodcock, Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment

Report Author(s)

Carol Adamson, Community Safety Service Manager carol.adamson@rotherham.gov.uk

Ward(s) Affected

Borough-Wide

Report Summary

Under section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006 and The Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009, annual scrutiny is required of decisions made and actions taken by responsible authorities in connection with the discharge of crime and disorder functions. The SRP annual report 2022-23 is presented to assist with this requirement.

Recommendations

That the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board notes the progress of the Safer Rotherham Partnership in tackling crime and disorder in 2022-23 against its key priorities and makes recommendations in relation to the current and future work of the partnership.

List of Appendices Included

Appendix 1 Safer Rotherham Partnership Annual Report 2022-23

Background Papers

[Safer Rotherham Partnership Plan 2022-2025](#)

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel

The annual report was presented to and agreed by the Safer Rotherham Partnership Board on 16 August 2023

Council Approval Required

No

Exempt from the Press and Public

No

The Safer Rotherham Partnership Annual Report 2022-23

1. Background

1.1 The Safer Rotherham Partnership (SRP) is the borough's Community Safety Partnership, established under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. Responsible authorities have a duty to work together to protect their local communities and help people feel safer. They work out how to deal with crime and local issues like anti-social behaviour, drug or alcohol misuse and reoffending. They assess local crime priorities annually, consulting with partners and the local community about their priorities and monitor progress in achieving them. There are five responsible authorities that make up the Safer Rotherham Partnership:

- Probation Service
- Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue
- South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
- South Yorkshire Police

Voluntary Action Rotherham, Victim Support and The Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire are also represented at SRP Board meetings.

1.2 Section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006, requires the Local Authority to ensure that it has a committee with power to review and scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions and to make reports or recommendation to the Local Authority with respect to the discharge of those functions. The Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009, require this committee to meet annually. The SRP annual report is presented to assist the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board in meeting this annual statutory requirement.

2. Key Issues

2.1 How the SRP Plan and Priorities for 2022-25 were agreed

2.2 The overarching priorities referred to in the annual report were agreed by the SRP Board on 7 April 2022, following an enhanced assessment and consultation process to develop 3-year priorities from 2022 to 2025. This included a comprehensive review of Police and partner data and information, wide ranging consultation, use of the Management of Risk in Law Enforcement (MoRiLE) tool to assess risks, and workshops with strategic leads and professionals with relevant expertise. The Plan was subsequently endorsed by Cabinet on 19 September 2022 and approved at the full Council meeting on 5 October 2022.

2.3 SRP Priorities and Objective Areas for 2022-25

2.4 The SRP Board agreed four overarching priorities that are contained within the SRP Plan 2022-2025. These were: Protecting Vulnerable Children; Protecting Vulnerable Adults; Safer Stronger Communities; Protecting People from Violence and Organised Crime. Table 1 below shows the commitments and objective areas within each priority which provide the focus for action. The priorities and objective areas were agreed in accordance with the overall SRP vision statement – *Working together*

to make Rotherham safe, to keep Rotherham safe and to ensure the communities of Rotherham feel safe.

2.5 Table 1 - SRP Priorities 2022-2025

Protecting Vulnerable Children

Our commitments

Objective area:	We will:
Child Abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase understanding of the potential signs of neglect and child abuse through training and awareness raising with partners • Raise awareness with the public around the signs of early abuse and mechanisms for reporting
Child Exploitation (CCE) Criminal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase understanding of CCE, reporting and responses, with professionals and the public through training and awareness raising • Work together with partners and the public to reduce the risk of CCE and ensure accurate recording of investigations and quality outcomes
Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase understanding of CSE, reporting and responses, with professionals and the public through training and awareness raising • Work together with partners and the public to reduce the risk of CSE and ensure accurate recording of investigations and quality outcomes

Protecting Vulnerable Adults

Our commitments

Objective area:	We will:
Substance misuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase engagement and positive outcomes from substance misuse treatment services for offenders within the criminal justice system
Mental health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the use and impact of mental health treatment requirements in the criminal justice system • Review dual diagnosis pathways to support service users with mental health and alcohol/mental health and alcohol/drug use treatment needs
Modern slavery and Human Trafficking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase understanding of the potential signs of modern slavery through training and awareness raising with partners • Raise awareness with the public around the signs of modern slavery and mechanisms for reporting

Safer and Stronger Communities

Our commitments

Objective area:	We will:
Making communities safer – tackling community safety priority locations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and refresh the partnership approach to problem solving in local neighbourhoods, including thresholds and methodology for partnership activity.
Preventing hate crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on the use of education and engagement to prevent hate crime by tackling the drivers of hate • Improve victims' experiences of reporting hate crime and incidents
Online crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore innovative ways in which partners and the public can be educated around online safety and digital technologies and develop engagement with young people, families and older people. • Identify best practice in embedding online activity within service user assessments

Protecting people from violence and organised crime

Our commitments

Objective area:	We will:
Domestic abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transform domestic abuse services, in line with the partnership strategy, to improve outcomes for victims • Ensure all those fleeing domestic abuse are able to access safe accommodation and appropriate support • Improve the use of criminal justice measures to better protect victims
Sexual abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and refresh the sexual abuse delivery plan, focussing on victim engagement • Improve timely reporting of sexual offences to increase forensic opportunities
Male violence against women and girls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce male violence against women and girls by focussing on hot spot locations and repeat perpetrators • Deliver awareness raising events, projects and promotions aimed at improving women and girls' safety and feelings of safety
Violence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide ways out for those already entrenched in violence, or who have been previously incarcerated, to support effective rehabilitation • Reduce violence through victim identification, care and support programmes • Reduce availability and access to lethal weapons • Work to change cultural and social norms that support violence • Encourage all professionals and organisations to continue to work toward becoming trauma-informed, to an approved standard for South Yorkshire

Organised crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proactively identify and implement a whole system partnership approach to tackling organised crime • Prevent individuals and emerging groups from becoming involved in organised crime • Build stronger information sharing structures between partners and communities • Target our partnership approach to those causing the highest harm in our communities • Disrupt organised crime via a partnership approach, utilising the Pursue, Prevent, Protect and Prepare framework
Counter terrorism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the risk of terrorism by taking a partnership approach to the Prevent, Protect and Prepare workstreams of the UK Contest Counter Terrorism Strategy • Achieve compliance with the Channel, Prevent, Protect and Prepare duties (under the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015) demonstrated through self-assessment using Home Office toolkits

2.6 Annual report content

2.7 The annual report (at appendix 1) provides an overview of the achievements and progress made against each SRP priority and objective area in 2022-23, along with current and emerging challenges. Data and case studies are included to illustrate key issues and areas of work. Next steps are included for each priority, as are the areas of focus for 2023-24, as agreed by the SRP Board following the 2023 annual “light touch” review. The annual report also provides an overview of how SRP partners have sought to maximise available funding and resources through collaborative working, joint commissioning and pooling resources of multi-agency partners and services.

2.8 Governance and performance management

2.9 SRP governance processes ensure robust performance management of the priorities. Each objective area has a set of performance indicators that enable progress to be tracked. Monitoring is carried out by designated priority strategic leads who attend the SRP Board and are supported by partnership priority groups and designated RMBC Community Safety Officers. The priority strategic lead presents a quarterly performance dashboard to the SRP Board, covering what is working well, current challenges and next steps for their priority area. Ensuing discussions allow for challenge by the wider Board members and discussion around any remedial action required. The process also provides assurance to the Board of progress.

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

3.1 This report is presented to assist with meeting statutory requirements for the review and scrutiny of crime and disorder functions by the responsible authorities, therefore no alternative options have been considered.

4. Consultation on proposal

4.1 The SRP Annual Report 2021-22 was presented to, and approved by, the Safer Rotherham Partnership Board at its meeting on 16 August 2023.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

5.1 Not applicable

6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications

6.1 There are no direct financial or procurement implications associated with this report.

7. Legal Advice and Implications

7.1 Under section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006, the Local Authority is required to ensure that it has a committee with power to review and scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions and to make reports or recommendation to the Local Authority with respect to the discharge of those functions. The Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009, require this committee to meet annually. This a statutory requirement and to satisfy the duty, this is currently undertaken by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board.

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

8.1 There are no direct human resources implications arising from the recommendations within this report.

9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

9.1 Protecting vulnerable children and protecting vulnerable adults were adopted as continuing priorities by the Safer Rotherham Partnership from 2022-2025. The Annual Report 2022-2023 shows how the partnership has worked to achieve the SRP Plan 2022-25 priorities and address crime and community safety risks, threats and vulnerabilities relating to children and vulnerable adults. Delivery plans, governance structures and performance management are in place for both the Protecting Vulnerable Children and Protecting Vulnerable Adults priorities.

10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

10.1 There are no direct equalities and human rights implications associated with this report. A full Equality Impact Assessment was undertaken to support the development of the SRP Plan 2022-25 and the Annual Report 2022-2023 describes how the priorities and commitments in the plan have been achieved.

11. Implications for CO₂ Emissions and Climate Change

11.1 There are no direct CO₂ Emissions and Climate Change implications associated with this report. A Carbon Impact Assessment was undertaken during the development of the SRP Plan 2022-2025. As the SRP coordinates existing partner activity and resources, there were no specific impacts identified related to the SRP Plan 2022-25.

12. Implications for Partners

12.1 There are no direct implications for partners associated with this report.

13. Risks and Mitigation

13.1 The production of this report for scrutiny ensures that the minimum legal requirements are met.

Accountable Officer(s)

Emma Ellis, Head of Service, Community Safety and Regulatory Services

Approvals obtained on behalf of:

	Name	Date
Chief Executive		Click here to enter a date.
Strategic Director of Finance & Customer Services (S.151 Officer)	Rob Mahon	27/09/23
Assistant Director of Legal Services (Monitoring Officer)	Stuart Fletcher	27/09/23
Assistant Director of Human Resources (if appropriate)	See below	26/09/23
Head of Human Resources (if appropriate)	John Crutchley	26/09/23
Head of Procurement	Karen Middlebrook	26.09.23
The Strategic Director with responsibility for this report	Paul Woodcock, Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment	25/09/23
Consultation undertaken with the relevant Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Corporate Services, Community Safety and Finance - Councillor Alam	27/09/23

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This report is published on the Council's [website](#).